

Appl. No. : 10/075,059
Filed : February 11, 2002

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 8 were pending in the application, were previously allowed, and then withdrawn from issue. Claims 4-7 were previously cancelled without prejudice. By this paper, Claims 1 and 8 have been amended, and new dependent Claims 9 and 10 added. Hence, Claims 1-3 and 8-10 are presented herein for examination.

Teleconference and Amendments

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of the teleconference of January 5, 2005. During this teleconference, the Examiner indicated that independent claims (Claims 1 and 8) rejected in the Office Action would be prospectively allowable if amended to include additional limitations relating to the difference between the width of the recited projecting plate and that of notch comprising a preselected value.

Accordingly, by this paper, Applicant has amended independent Claims 1 and 8 to include limitations stating that the width of the projecting plate is slightly less than that of said notch by a preselected value (Claim 1), and that the projecting plate has a width less than that of said aperture by a purposely selected amount (Claim 8). Support for these amendments is present, *inter alia*, at paragraph [0018], lines 19-20 of the specification as filed (“...the width of the projecting plate 5333 is slightly less than that of the notch 5334”, thereby indicating that the widths of the plate and notch are purposefully chosen), at Figs. 5a through 5c as filed (showing a plate 5333 having a distinct gap formed on either side between itself and the second strip 5332), and at paragraph [0020], lines 1-3, of the specification (“...the welding effect could also be enhanced according to the present invention because the effective solder is largely increased”, indicating that the present invention, including the difference in width between the notch and plate, enhances the effective solder {area} to enhance the welding effect or strength).

Applicant submits that conversely, an arbitrarily selected difference between the projecting plate width and notch width will not assure the positive and strong mechanical joint (or increase the effective solder area) which is a key feature of Applicant’s claimed invention(s) as presented herein.

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Applicant submits that neither Schantz (US Patent No. 3,916,139) nor Seidler (US Patent No. 4,737,115) teach or fairly suggest the consideration or use of a preselected value (or purposely selected amount) for the difference between the plate and notch widths, as now recited in Applicant's Claims 1 and 8 respectively. Accordingly, Applicant's claimed inventions cannot as a matter of law be rendered obvious based on these references.

Traversal

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertion that the cited art (e.g., Schantz and Seidler) teaches a tab width that is less than the notch width; however, this issue is rendered moot in the present case by Applicant's amendments to the claims as previously discussed. Applicant herein preserves the right to maintain this traversal in any subsequent continuation or divisional application.

New Claims

By this paper, Applicant has added two new dependent claims to further distinguish its invention(s) over the prior art.

Support for new dependent Claim 9 is found at, *inter alia*, paragraph [0019], lines 4-7, of the specification (“...*the projecting plate 5333 is turned downwards to compress the bare wire end 551, as can be seen in Fig. 5(b). In such way, the bare wire end 551 can be preliminarily fixed. Referring to Fig. 5(c), the bare wire end 551 is finally welded by applying solder 552*”) and at paragraph [0020], lines 1-3 (“...*the welding effect could also be enhanced according to the present invention because the effective solder is largely increased*”).

Support for new dependent Claim 10 is found at, *inter alia*, paragraph [0005], lines 1-4 (discussing careless stripping or separation of the wire from the prior art device), par. [0007] (discussing the present invention fixing the wire to the structure to increasing the “welding effect”), and at paragraph [0020], lines 1-3, of the specification (“...*the welding effect could also be enhanced according to the present invention because the effective solder is largely increased. Therefore, the wire 55 is firmly fastened onto the ground pin 533.*”)

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Summary

Applicant believes that its present amendments to independent Claims 1 and 8 are both supported by the specification and distinguish over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner pass this case to issuance at the earliest opportunity.

Other Remarks

Applicant notes that any remarks, amendments, cancellations, or additions made herein are made solely for the purposes of more clearly and particularly describing and claiming the invention, and not for purposes of overcoming art or for patentability. The Examiner should infer no (i) adoption of a position with respect to patentability, (ii) change in the Applicant's position with respect to any claim or subject matter of the invention, or (iii) acquiescence in any way to any position taken by the Examiner, not otherwise explicitly discussed.

Furthermore, any remarks made with respect to a particular claim or claims shall be limited to only such claim or claims.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments that may be resolved over the telephone, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at (858) 675-1670.

Respectfully submitted,

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